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For more information, contact:

Gary Feland - 406-444-6166

Kate Whitney - 406-444-3056

QWEST'S DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE CHARGE WILL INCREASE JUNE 1

Users of Qwest's directory assistance should take note that the company's existing rate of 40 cents per local or in-state directory assistance call will increase to 95 cents per call as of June 1. Qwest is still required to provide residential customers with three free directory assistance calls per month, but the free-call allowance is no longer available to business customers.

Qwest has notified the Public Service Commission that the company plans to seek PSC approval to offer directory assistance users the option of automatic call completion at a charge of 35 cents per call completion, plus any long-distance charges that may apply. With this option, a customer who obtains a number through directory assistance will be asked if he or she wants Qwest to dial the requested number. Customers who do not want this option available on their phone lines should contact Qwest to ask that this feature be blocked.

The PSC last December approved Qwest's request to eliminate price regulation of the company's in-state directory assistance service. As a result of the PSC decision, Qwest may increase or decrease its directory assistance rates after notifying customers and the PSC of the price change prior to the new rate taking effect.

Directory assistance is available at varying rates from several long-distance carriers.

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